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OXC 6092
Copy 2 of 8
17 February 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Field Activities, OSA

SUBJECT: Sonic Boom Tests

1. A recent DCI query to AD/OSA regarding the status of A-12 sonic boom measurements has prompted a renewed effort in this regard. The basic objectives of this continuing testing effort involves determinations of overpressures, surface noise levels, and the effect on people and structures. The results of such tests will determine the OXCART vulnerability during operational missions.

2. On 3 February 64 the OSA staff was requested to look into the status of the sonic boom tests and initiate actions to obtain significant answers. The following is a summary of actions to date:

4 February:

D/FA/OSA assigned PLANS/FA/OSA the responsibility of route selection and coordination for an anticipated test program.

5 February:

D/TECH/OSA cabled LAC requesting resumption of sonic boom tests, a resume of past test results and a proposed test plan.

6 February:

PLANS/FA and Programs Staff designated as action officer to prepare a letter to Mr. Halaby (FAA) requesting technical assistance in support of the test requirement to be established by D/TECH/OSA.

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This document contains information
referring to Project OXCART

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7 February:

Mr. Kelly Johnson informed Mr. Parangosky that initial planning discussions for new tests were in process with [redacted] and that although the previous NASA tests were not formalized into a report, available data would be forwarded as soon as possible.

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14 February:

An informal discussion among Mr. Parangosky, [redacted] concluded that further actions should be delayed until D/TECH could establish a definite test program with inputs from LAC. It appears that NASA rather than FAA are the logical technicians to perform such tests and after agreement on the test requirements, Area 51 will submit suggested routes to D/FA/OSA for coordination by FAA and NORAD.

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3. Further efforts in this regard by D/FA/PLANS will be delayed pending an indication from D/TECH as to the nature of the test requirements. At that time Mr. Ratomski will be contacted and alerted of an impending test program, the OXCART division will be briefed and the Security Staff will be informed.

SIGNED

[redacted]

PLANS/FA/OSA

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